

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (New) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a network-card-recognizing device that recognizes a plurality of network cards mounted therein;

a degree-of-demountability storage device that stores therein the degrees of demountability of the plurality of network cards recognized by the network-card-recognizing device; and

a for-main-apparatus-body identifier production device that produces a main-apparatus-body identifier using an identifier of a network card having the lowest degree of demountability among the plurality of network cards stored in the degree-of-demountability storage device.

6. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the demountability is a facility of structurally detaching a network card, a frequency of uses, or a type of card.

7. (New) A for-use-on-main-apparatus-body identifier production method for an information processing apparatus, comprising:

a network-card-recognizing step for recognizing a plurality of network cards;

a degree-of-demountability storage step for storing the degrees of demountability of the plurality of network cards that are recognized in the network-card-recognizing step; and

a<sup>1</sup> a for-main-apparatus-body identifier production step for producing a main-apparatus-body identifier using an identifier of a network card having the lowest degree of demountability among the plurality of network cards stored in the degree-of-demountability storage step.

8. (New) The for-use-on-main-apparatus-body identifier production method for an information processing apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the demountability is a facility of structurally detaching a network card, a frequency of uses, or a type of card.

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